

The Odisha Gazette

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HOME DEPARTMENT

RESOLUTION

The 15th January, 2022

Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse are global phenomenon. No part of the world is unaffected by it. In recent times, the advancements in Information technology have inadvertently added to the complexity of the problem. The Internet — both surface net and dark net are unsuspecting allies of the traffickers as they are used both for procurement as well as trafficking of drugs, some of which are extremely potent in very small quantities. Use of encrypted technology (WhatsApp, Wickr, etc.) and anonymising technology (VPNs), along with cryptocurrency have made transactions in drugs, difficult to intercept.

2. As per World Drug Report 2021, published by UNODC, "Drugs killed almost half a million people in 2019 while drug use disorders resulted in 18 million years of healthy life lost.... Over the past year, around 275 million people have used drugs, up by 22 per cent from 2010." Extent of drug abuse in India has increased as brought out in "Magnitude of Substance Use in India 2019", a report published by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. Within India, many parts have been badly affected.

3. In Odisha, it is imperative to give a serious push to efforts to contain drug abuse and drug trafficking, so that the emerging problem is nipped in the bud. This can be done by a combination of demand reduction, supply reduction, and harm reduction measures.

4. Accordingly, it has been decided to constitute Odisha State Task Force against Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse. Task Force will be chaired by Mr. Abhay, former DGP Odisha. There will be a multi departmental co-ordination committee headed by Chief Secretary and co-chaired by Chairman, State Task Force.

5. Task Force will formulate a state policy within the context of National Policy on Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic substances 2012.

6. Multi Departmental Committee chaired by Chief Secretary will comprise by followings: DGP Odisha, Secretaries of Department of Home, Health & Family welfare, SSEPD, Excise, School & Mass Education, Higher Education, I & PR and IT and will be the members of Odisha State Task force against Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse.

7. Chairman can constitute smaller sub committees of the task force to study any aspect in detail and make recommendations. Chairman can nominate/invite any other State/Central govt. official, or expert to any of the subcommittees. Chairman can seek cooperation from agencies of United Nations System.

8. The Task Force will coordinate with the relevant agencies/ Ministries of the Central Government, viz. the Narcotics Control Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance, Drug Controller (General) India, Central Bureau of Narcotics and others as relevant, apart from other State Governments as necessary for a comprehensive approach to the problem with a consistent national footprint.

9. The Mandate of the task force will be to coordinate, suggest policy, and suggest action in following areas:

A. Demand Reduction (in Context of National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction)

/Prevention:

- Raise community awareness.
- Increase community participation and public cooperation.
- Identify dependent population.
- Focused intervention in vulnerable
- Outreach to community, schools, colleges, and youth.
- Treatment/Detoxification/De-addiction/Rehabilitation (by Community, Govt. agencies,

NGOs, Hospitals).

- Drug abuse survey to collect data about extent, pattern, geographical spread, and demography of drug abuse.
- Training and livelihood support of ex-drug addicts.
- Odisha specific study, evaluation, research.
- Capacity building for service providers.

B. Enforcement or Supply reduction:

- Destruction of illicit crops of Ganja/Opium.
- Seizure of drugs/contraband, investigation and prosecution of traffickers.
- Financial investigation for confiscation.
- Preventive detention under PIT NDPS Act.
- Voluntary cooperation measures with relevant pharmaceutical/chemical industry to prevent the abuse of pharmaceutical preparations, synthetic drugs and possible Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS).
- Capacity building, including in the area of cyber investigation.

C. Alternative Development Interventions

D. Harm reduction

E. Assessment of performance / Response of Odisha Govt. agencies

This will come into force with effect from the date of its publication in the *Odisha Gazette*.

ORDER

Ordered this Resolution be published in the Extraordinary issue of the *Odisha Gazette* and copies thereof be forwarded to all Departments of Government/ all Heads of Department.

By Order of the Governor

SANJEEV CHOPRA

Additional Chief Secretary to Government